

ABSTRACT

A hose dispenser has a rotatable reel 10, holding a coiled hose 12 suitable for conveying breathable gas, mounted on a tubular steel frame 14. The reel has a pivoting arm 16, which has a portion defining an aperture, or "eye" 18 fitted thereon. The hose is threaded through the eye 16 so that the free end of the hose protrudes through the eye. The free end of the hose is fitted with a resilient frusto-conical protective hood 20. The hood provides two functions. First, it enables the free end of the hose to engage the eye of the arm 16, and secondly, it protects a valve 22, located on the free end of the hose, from damage. Another valve 24 is provided in the centre of the reel, which is connected to the other end of the hose. In use, the free end of the hose is carried by an operative, or is attached to breathing apparatus worn by the operative, and the other end is connected to a source containing gas for breathing.

The arm 16 is mounted pivotally on the reel. Due to the fact that the hose is threaded through the aperture portion mounted on the arm, when the hose is put under tension, i.e. when the end of the hose is pulled so as to uncoil the hose, the arm lifts. If the hose becomes slack, i.e. when it is not being pulled, the arm falls under gravity.

The pivoting arm 16 is operatively connected to braking means which provides a brake for the reel 10 holding the hose. When the brake is engaged rotational motion of the reel is inhibited, thus preventing undesirably large amounts of hose from being dispensed from the reel 10 when the hose is slack.

(Fig. 1)